



JRW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hidetoshi YOSHIKAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1742

Application No.: 10/823,629

Examiner: J. ROE

Filed: April 14, 2004

Docket No.: 119092

For: COLD-FORMED SPRING HAVING HIGH FATIGUE STRENGTH AND HIGH CORROSION FATIGUE STRENGTH, STEEL FOR SUCH SPRING, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SUCH SPRING

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

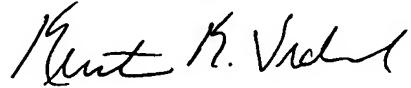
In reply to the November 16, 2006, Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-4 and 9-12, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-12 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

See MPEP §803 (stating that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added)). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Kristin K. Vidovich
Registration No. 41,448

JAO:KKV/kxs

Date: December 12, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

| |
|--|
| DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461 |
|--|